Overview of New Early Reader Leveling System

To better help you find appropriate reading materials for your child, the Deerfield Public Library has developed a system for Early Readers based on the language, content, and format of each book.

Our Early Reader collection is divided into five color coded levels. These levels serve as general guiding tools in selecting reading materials, making it easy for you to find books that your child can read and enjoy!





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Early Readers Collection



Phonics: books that emphasize the sound a letter makes, includes vowel and consonant patterns; meant to be read together with an adult



Pre-Emergent (reading to be shared): books that have fewer than 20 words per page, large print, repetition and rhyme, picture/photo support, simple sentences, and basic punctuation



Emergent (reading with help): books that have a range of print sizes, more words and lines of text per page, less repetition, wider variety of punctuation, and expanded vocabulary



Early Fluent (reading with little help): books that have smaller print and normal text spacing, more complex sentences, multi-syllabic words, and less picture support



Fluent (reading alone): books that have short chapter divisions with challenging ideas and themes, more complex

Favorite Characters

Your favorite character Early Reader books are now shelved under the character name. For example, look for



Barbie books under "BARB"



Dora & Diego books under "DORA"



Pokemon books under "POKE"



Spongebob books under "SPONG"



Star Wars books under "STAR"



Superheroes books under "SUPER"